

## **Katie Miner**

Involved in FIRST for the past five years, Katie provides countless contributions to our team, surrounding community, and STEM. She serves as a leader, exemplifying gracious professionalism and FIRST's other core values.

Katie began her five-year journey in creative problem solving and interpersonal growth as a member of the Lockport's FLL team in 6th grade. She later became president of her FTC team, allowing her to develop her leadership skills at a young age. When she joined the Warlocks, she immediately became a valuable asset to the team; showing that she is dependable, intelligent, and self-motivated. She told me countless times that her love for science and math acted as one of her main motivators when joining the team, along with her past experiences in the other FIRST programs.

Katie leads our team by being our student president for the 2019 season, acting as a liaison between the administration and the students, along with filling in the loose ends that the team may need. Katie is also an excellent leader of our CAD team, working with the mentors and students to create an effective and efficient design every build season. When faced with the challenging role of being the only CAD member in her sophomore year, she immediately stepped up and worked for countless hours on the design of our robot. Katie consistently shows her dedication to our team; her leadership and positive work ethic have had a significant influence on those around her.

Katie is also the leader of our scouting team, where she makes significant contributions to our match strategy and alliance selections. She works tirelessly to train our 15 scouts, ensuring that they are fully prepared for competition through a few training sessions and hands-on activities.

This year, she took on the task of preparing the teams Woodie Flowers and Chairman's Award submissions and is looking forward to being a Chairman's presenter at both the Finger Lakes Regional and the Buckeye Regional. Next year, she looks forward to being the head of the media department on the Warlocks.

Katie is also an outstanding role model for our team, helping spread the message of FIRST throughout our community. She plays an important part in every demo and community outreach event that our team holds. This past summer, Katie even organized our Erie County Fair demonstration, where 500+ people learned about the robot, our team, and FIRST. This summer, she and other Warlocks plan on attending the FIRST advocacy conference in Washington, D.C. to learn more about how to spread FIRST's message. Her enthusiasm, leadership, creativity, and work ethic make significant impacts on sparking interest in STEM for the next generation of students, especially the girls, who see her as an excellent role model. The team has deemed her the "Freshmen Advocate". She always encourages rookies to get involved and find what they enjoy on the team. Thanks to all of her efforts, we've noticed our rookies become more proactive and excited about robotics. On top of all of this, Katie organizes our monthly bake sales to help fund the team and extra activities for the students.

Even with all of her robotics activities, Katie is 2nd in her junior class at Lockport High School. She maintains a GPA of 4.1 while being involved in many other activities, including her school's band, jazz band, and the University at Buffalo Gifted Math Program. She brings her math expertise from this program to the design team and the rest of the team, using calculus and trigonometry to determine the plausibility of proposed designs.

Katie is truly a gracious professional and she understands the opportunity FIRST provides her. She has an outstanding work ethic and is well recognized as a team leader. The team mentors are very proud to nominate Katie and we know that her future is bright. We would highly recommend that she be selected for Dean's List; to honor her as the outstanding role model and ambassador she is for spreading the FIRST message